

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. An audio system, comprising:
  - a base unit including at least one source of audio input;
  - at least one speaker operable to provide audio output;
  - a removable faceplate, wherein the removable faceplate is an active device when removed from the base unit, the removable face plate having a host connector to allow the faceplate to connect to a host; and
  - a base connector operable to connect the removable faceplate to the base unit.